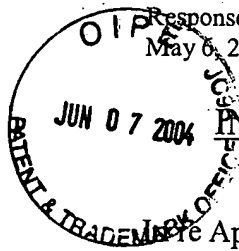


Docket No. 10001.000600 (NVLS 379)

Response To Final Office Action

May 6, 2004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

Craig L. Stevens et al.

Serial No. 09/872,796

Examiner: Erik J. Kielin

Filing Date: 06/01/2001

Art Unit: 2813

Title: Architecture For High Throughput Semiconductor Processing Applications

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the office action mailed on 03/10/04 (hereinafter the "last office action").

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: